

PATENT

Applicant:

Hillebrand

Serial Number:

10/601,276

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Art Unit:

1725

Examiner:

Lynne Edmondson

For:

METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A FOOD PACKAGING ARTICLE

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The following amendments to the Specification are made pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(2)(i)-(ii).

On page 1, please delete the section titled "Cross-Reference To Related Applications" and replace such deleted section with a replacement section as follows:

-- This application is a division of prior [co-pending] application U.S. Serial No. 09/603,228, filed June 26, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,581,764, which application was based on and claimed the benefit of provisional application Serial No. 60/181,921, filed February 11, 2000. --

On page 14, please delete the section titled "Abstract of the Disclosure" and replace such deleted section with a replacement section as follows:

-- [An article for packaging food is provided in which the article comprising a triangularly shaped top layer of a first flexible material, such as aluminum foil, having two sealing edges and one opening edge, and a triangularly shaped bottom layer of a

second flexible material having two sealing edges and one opening edge, wherein the sealing edges of the top layer are secured to the sealing edges of the bottom layer, thereby forming a conical pouch between the top layer and the bottom layer. The pouch has an opening between the opening edges into which food items can be inserted and then the opening edges folded together to close the pouch. The top layer preferably includes perforations that facilitate tearing open the top layer, for example, during or following reheating of the food item. The packaging articles can be provided in a sheet form having one or more rows of the packaging articles, wherein each row comprises two or more of the articles integrally formed together, such that each article is removably connected to another article, preferably by having perforations between the articles. The sheet can be provided to the user as a cylindrical roll, from which the user can tear off an individual packaging article as needed. Food items, such as slices of pizza, can be placed into the pouch opening of packaging article, and then the opening edge of the top layer and the bottom layer can be pinched together and folded to close the pouch] Food packaging articles are manufactured by providing top and bottom sheets of flexible material and securing selected areas of the sheets along sealing edges to define a plurality of triangular-shaped pouches, with each pouch corresponding to an individual food packaging article. The sealing edges preferably are secured by fusion or adhesion welding. In an illustrative embodiment, the sealing edges are secured by ultrasonic welding using a pair of weld heads that are positioned to weld lines at different angles from one another. --